Production of wheat

1379. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was !he State-wise target fixed by Government for wheat production in the country for the current rabi crop ;

(b) what is the actual production of wheat in the country during this season ;

(c) the names of States which have failed to achieve the wheat production targets with details of each of such States, and reasons attributable to less production;

(d) whether it is a fact that many States have banned the free movement of wheat from one State to another for preventing the farmers to sell their wheat at remunerative prices;

(e) if so, what are the details with reasons thereof; and

(f), what remedial action Government propose to take to enable the farmers to sell their wheat at remunerative price anywhere in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Statement giving State-wise targets of wheat during 1991-92 is annexed. *(See below).*

(b) Final estimates of production of wheat have not yet become due from the States. However, according to present assessment, wheat production in the country during the current year is estimated to be about 54.0—56.0 million tonnes.

(c) Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are the major wheat growing States which are expected to show shortfall in achieving the production targets during the year 1991-92. The anticipated production in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar during the current year is 196, 50, and 39. 15 lakh tonnes respectively. The reason attributable to shortfall in production of wheat in these States is deficient/scanty rains in the post monsoon and winter monsoon seasons.

(d) and (e) The country is treated as one zone for the movement of wheat.

(f) To enable the farmers to get remunerative prices of wheat, the minimum support price for the year 1991-92 has been fixed at Rs. 250 per quintal, an increase of Rs. 25 over the previous year's price of Rs 225 per quintal. Besides, the Government have also announced a bonus of Rs. 25 per quintal over and above the minimum support price to the farmers who sell wheat to FCI and its agencies procuring for the Central pool during the period from 1st April, to 31st May, 1992.

Statement

Statewise targets of wheat production—1991-92

(Lakh tonnes)

State	Target
Assam	1.20
Bihar	40.00
Gujarat	16.50
Haryana	63.00
Himachal Pradesh	5.40
Jammu & Kashmir	3.00
Karnataka	1.00
Madhya Pradesh	50.00
Maharashtra	9.00
Orissa	0.75
Punjab	116.50
Rajasthan	40.90
Uttar Pradesh	209.00
West Bengal	7.00
Others	1.75
ALL INDIA	565.00